



VA INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER

DATA ISSUES BRIEF SPECIAL EDITION

2009 VA HSR&D National Meeting

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2009 VA HSR&D National Meeting

1. Meeting Agenda and Information

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Services & Research (HSR&D) National Meeting will be held in Baltimore, MD, February 11–13, 2009. The meeting agenda and further information are available at <http://www.hsrdata.research.va.gov/meetings/2009/default.cfm>.

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2. Visit the VIREC Exhibit Booth

Staff at the VIREC Exhibit Booth will be available to answer researchers' questions about VA databases and information systems throughout the 2009 National Meeting. Researchers will have the opportunity to meet the people behind the VIREC Help Desk and learn more about VIREC's products and services. While visiting the exhibit booth, researchers can sign up for the HSRData-L Listserv—a discussion forum moderated by VIREC for HSR&D researchers using VA data and for stewards of VA data and managers of VA information systems. In addition, researchers can subscribe to the VIREC *Data Issues Brief*—a monthly newsletter updating VA researchers on current news regarding VA and selected non-VA data and medical informatics.

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3. National Meeting Workshop on Research Access to VA Data

Join the VA Information Resource Center, Office of Quality and Performance (OQP), National Data Systems, VHA Privacy Office, and the Office of Research and Development for a presentation on the current processes for access to and the use of VA databases.

Thursday, February 12, 10:45 – 12:15 pm

- Workshop: *Research Access to VA Data*
- Hynes, D; Eisen, S.; Fihn, S; Quinn, J; Hardenbrook, S; Kok, L
- Objectives:
 - Review current processes for research authorization to access and use VHA data sources including OQP, VA-Medicare Data, and Austin data such as: Medical SAS Datasets, Decision Support System-National Data Extracts, and Corporate Data Warehouse data
 - Describe initiatives aimed at streamlining the access authorization process

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4. VIREC Breakfast Session at 2009 VA HSR&D National Meeting

New and experienced researchers may be interested in this VIREC session on services available to assist investigators with data and clinical informatics needs.

Friday, February 13, 7:00 – 8:00 am

- VIREC Breakfast Session: *VA Information Resource Center (VIREC)*
- Weddle, T
- Objectives:
 - Overview of VIREC Services and Resources
 - Highlight new data sources available for research
 - Overview of VIREC Support to QUERI

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5. National Meeting Session on Improving Patient Race and Ethnicity Information in VA Studies

Join VIREC for a paper session on improving patient race and ethnicity data in VA studies.

Friday, February 13, 10:15 – 11:45 am

- Paper Session: *Improving Patient Race and Ethnicity Information in VA Studies: Agreement Between VA and Medicare Data*
- Haywood, T; Stroupe, K; Tarlov, E; Owens, A; Weichle, T; Hynes, D
- Objective:
 - Examine the use of Medicare data to supplement VA data when race and ethnicity information is missing from VA databases

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